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T H E
Winnipeg Little Theatre

P R E S E N T S

“WINTERSET”

by MAXWELL ANDERSON

October 15th, 16th, 17th

68th PRODUCTION SEASON 1936-37

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"WINTERSSET"

"IT is incumbent on the dramatist to be a poet, and incumbent upon the poet to be a prophet, dreamer and interpreter of the racial dream." Maxwell Anderson, justifying his experiment with these words, brought to the theatre last season a play which not only established himself as the foremost dramatist of the day but convinced the play-going public that there is a definite place for poetic drama in the modern theatre.

"Winterset" won the award of the Critics' Circle of New York, heaped praise upon the writer, director, and cast, and was one of the really big box-office successes of the year. Theatrical history was made.

The Winnipeg Little Theatre presented a Maxwell Anderson play two years ago in "Elizabeth the Queen." In "Winterset," however, the playwright has left his historical romances behind him and turned to the life and speech of today. He has taken an heroic theme, clothed it in rich, classic verse, and placed it in the setting of a waterfront slum.

The play is undoubtedly based on the Sacco-Vanzetti case—Mio, the leading figure, a son of any Sacco, any Vanzetti. His only object is to avenge the unjust conviction of his father. He says:

".....For my heritage they've left me one thing only, and that's to be my father's voice crying up out of the earth and quick-lime where they struck himI will go back and hang the carrion around their necks that made it! I can sleep then. Or even live."

Coincidence is not scorned by the playwright. Mio meets the judge who condemned his father, the gangster who committed the crime, and falls in love with the sister of a witness. The lines of the play are beautiful and thrilling, and their power is undeniable.

The huge span of the bridge which is the main setting of "Winterset" plays no unimportant role in the drama "a true representation of the play's gigantic soul." As a matter of fact Maxwell Anderson called his play originally, "The Bridge," the great structure, as he himself expresses it, something transcending steel and stone, rushing forever up and on; something which, rising from the mud of the river bank, eternally stabs the sky.

"Winterset" is probably the most important play yet presented by the Winnipeg Little Theatre, because of its departure from the more familiar forms of the drama and because of its challenge to both actors and director.

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“THE SEASON”

CANADA 1936-37

WITH the opening of “Winterset” the Winnipeg Little Theatre institutes its sixteenth season. Under the direction of John Craig, five other productions are planned for this year, one of which will be left to the choice of subscribers.

“The Prisoner,” by Taras Shevchenko, is already in rehearsal for the November offering. In December, Dickens’ famous “Christmas Carol” is planned for the Yuletide season, and in January, the recent success, “Springtime For Henry.” The Little Theatre has selected “Hamlet” for its Shakespearean production this year, a choice of special interest in view of the fact that New York itself will have two new “Hamlets” to see this winter. The fifth production will be by popular choice.

* * *

The Winnipeg Little Theatre takes this opportunity of bidding welcome to the John Holden Players, now in their fourth week at the Dominion Theatre. A number of Little Theatre members have had the opportunity of both meeting the players and seeing them play and are assured that they well deserve Winnipeg’s patronage.

* * *

Other Little Theatres throughout Canada are busy with preparations for an important season. Saskatoon is planning five major productions which are: “Bird in Hand” (Drinkwater), “Twin

Beds” (Archie Mayo), “Other People’s Lives” (A. A. Milne), “The Late Christopher Bean” (Emlyn Williams) and “The Bishop Misbehaves” (Frederick Jackson).

* * *

Hart House opens the 1936-37 program with Ashley Dukes’ gay comedy, “One More River”, whose preface reads: “To the dramatists of the drawing room, this trifle is dedicated, with a bow.” Other Hart House plays will be “This Mad World” the Kapek Brothers’ “insect play;” “The Snow Queen,” a phantasy by Andrew Allan; “Merrily We Roll Along,” by George Kaufman and Moss Hart; and “The Abbe Prevost” by Helen Waddell.

* * *

The Montreal Repertory Theatre, with Martha Allan as producing director, will offer seven plays, only two of which have been definitely announced. The theatre will open its season with “Blind Alley,” last year’s New York success by James Warwick, and in December will present one that has also been chosen by the Winnipeg Little Theatre, “Springtime For Henry.” The others will be selected from a list which includes “Winterset,” “Kind Lady,” “Night of January 16,” and even “Love From a Stranger,” which opened only last week in New York.

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The Winnipeg Little Theatre

Presents its Sixty-Eighth Production

WINNIPEG AUDITORIUM

October 15th, 16th, and 17th.

"WINTERSET"

By Maxwell Anderson

The play produced by John Craig

Trock	N. Hamilton Layton
Shadow	William Klyn
1st Young Man	Charles Stewart
2nd Young Man	John J. Faires
Lucia	Esse W. Ljungh
Piny	Isobel Cameron
Miriamne	Lillian Sohn
Garth	Harold L. Glazerman
Esdras	Kenneth Levinson
First Girl	Edith Myers
Second Girl	Ellen Bradley
Judge Gaunt	Alfred E. McGinley
The Hobo	Tim Eaton
Mio	Liston Burns McIlhagga
Carr	Earle Beattie
Herman	E. Gordon Lowan
A Sailor	Leon Tessler
Policeman	Graeme Norman
Radical	Henry Humphreys
Sergeant	George C. Waight
Urchins	Lorraine Johannson, Joy Carter, Mel Todd
Pedestrians	Lillian McRae, Flora McRae, John Ritter, Eneas Smythe

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Act I

Scene 1. The bank of a river under a bridgehead.
Early December morning.

Scene 2. A cellar apartment.

Scene 3. Under the bridge. Evening of the same day.

Act II

The basement. The same evening.

Act III

The river bank outside the tenement, a little before the close of the previous act

Setting designed by Charles Faurer Costumes—Kay Scott

The dance arranged and directed by Alex Dobbie

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Stage Manager—Ted Burch

Director—John Craig

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Provincial Fire Commissioner,
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THE CALENDAR

Little Theatre Book Club Inquiries have already been received regarding the Little Theatre

Book Club which proved such a success last year. Sufficient books are now on hand to furnish at least two groups, and those interested are asked to telephone Miss Vivian Kyle, 41 228, for further information. Among the additions to the library are some of the latest London and New York successes.

Little Theatre Saturday Nights To a great many, the Little Theatre

Saturday Nights require no introduction, but new subscribers will find these the means of becoming acquainted with the "roustabouts," and those desiring to act will be given an opportunity to show what they can do. No definite date has been arranged for the first night, but Saturday dramatic columns in the press will carry further announcement.

Play-Writing A golden opportunity for budding playwrights! The Little

Theatre wants some "Three by Threes" for use at Saturday try-outs—in other words, short sketches not to exceed three minutes of acting time, for three people, preferably two women and a man, or three women. If one has the urge to write, now is the time.

Little Theatre Workshop The same premises have been secured for the workshop this year,

at 173 McDermot Ave. Scenery, properties and costumes have been in storage all summer, and are crying out for a little attention. Anyone who would enjoy a little work with some fun thrown in, will be welcome at the Workshop following this production.

Fall cleaning is in full swing, and the only difference between the fall cleaning at the Workshop and the fall cleaning in the home is that the Workshop throws nothing out, but welcomes anything thrown in, however old or shabby. Those cleaning out cupboards are asked to remember the Workshop.

A telephone call to Mrs. A. O. Smith, 49 780, or Norrie Duthie, 34 278, will be appreciated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For generous assistance in preparations for "Winterset" the Little Theatre wishes to thank W. H. McPherson, The Winnipeg Piano Company, Marjorie Barrack Beliveau and Mr. Corrie.

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THE AUTHOR

The theatre is indebted to Maxwell Anderson, author of "Winterset," for no less than eighteen plays since 1923. Of these ten have been written in verse, including three which have not yet been performed, but will likely appear this winter. His first, "White Desert," was an artistic success but a box office failure, and it was not until "Elizabeth the Queen", that the public was won over. Other plays in blank verse were "Sea Wife", "Night Over Taos", "Mary of Scotland" and "Valley Forge", and the three now in preparation use this medium.

Of his prose plays, perhaps "What Price Glory?" written in collaboration with Laurence Stallings, is his most famous. Others include "Saturday's Children", "Gods of Lightning" (with much the same theme as "Winterset") and "Both Your Houses", which won him the Pulitzer Prize.

PERSONALITIES

It was with justifiable pride that Winnipeg read this fall of the success of a former Little Theatre associate, Brenda Bennett. This charming young Winnipeg singer was most

cordially received by the New York critics on her appearance with the D'Oyly Opera Company there in September. Miss Bennet will be remembered as a leading player with the Little Theatre several seasons ago, notably for her role in "The Belle of New York." She left here to study in England, and shortly afterward joined the Savoyards, first as a member of the chorus and later as a leading player.

* * *

Nancy Pyper, another Winnipegger, is continuing her successful direction of the Hart House Theatre in Toronto. Mrs. Pyper, who was well known here both in acting and directing is Hart House's first woman director. She has just returned from a trip to London and Malvern and has an imposing list of plays to offer for this season's entertainment.

* * *

Carla Lehmann, who appeared in "He Who Gets Slapped" and other Little Theatre productions here, is now a member of the Croydon Repertory Company in London.

* * *

Jack Peterkin, whose Children's Theatre was a successful venture in Winnipeg two years ago, is now engaged in stock, and has appeared in several cities in the southern United States.

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BEHIND THE SCENES

In the production of *Winterset* the following Little Theatre members have given their services in the various departments listed:

Carpentering:—Ted Burch, Charles Faurer, Frank Swanson, Jimmy King, Tom Dooley, John Ritter and William Molloy.

Costumes:—Kay Scott, Mrs. Arthur E. Hopkins, Beatrice Truesdale, Marjorie Norman, Violet Warren.

Make-Up: — Nancy Kenny and Make-Up Class.

Lighting:—Peter York and Harry McMurray.

Prompting:—Ethel Watson, Alberta Collard and Kathleen Regan.

Secretarial Work:—Evelyn Robinson.

Properties:—Dorothy Shragge, Frances Congalton, Ellen Green, Dorothy Howey and Eneas Smythe.

Painting:— Charles Faurer, Ted Burch, Peggy Gray, Frances Congalton, Ethel Barry and Kitty Grant.

Stage Crew:—Fred McKay, Frank Swanson, Jimmy King and Don Leatch.

THE NEXT PRODUCTION

The Winnipeg Little Theatre considers itself very fortunate in being able to offer to Winnipeg for the first time the famous Ukrainian play "The Prisoner", which will be presented in Nov. This play will be presented by an entirely Ukrainian cast, with all the glamour of the folk songs and dances of the Cossack country.

BETTER SPEECH

Today the general public is appreciating more and more the value of good speech. In any position one wishes to fill it is important, especially for the radio where clear diction is essential. There are many inquiries for people who can "speak the speech", so why not be prepared when your chance appears?

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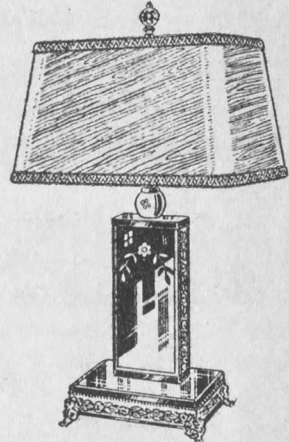
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